Sue's Trousseau

By WILLIAM BRYAN.

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"I don't suppose that there is anything more to be said," Susie whisper-

ed, looking up into Lambert's face. "There is a lot more to be said." declared Lambert. "Uncle Jim is guardian of my inheritance until I am twenty-five, but he has no right to prevent

my marrying you." "But you will lose the fortune if you marry without his consent," she re-

"I can work," he declared. "I would rather be poor and work for you than to have the income and be at Uncle Jim's mercy. He wants the money for himself, and it goes to himself if I marry without his consent, so he won't give his consent."

'We can walt," she suggested. "It is only three years. There will never be any one but you, dear. I would not want to feel that in marrying me you had destroyed your prospects.'

"And be unhappy for three years for the sake of dad's money?" he said bitterly. "You can't buy three years even with half a million, Sue. That clause was only put in because dad was afraid that I might marry one of the Spencer girls. Uncle Jim is taking advantage of the clause to make me miserable He was only father's stepbrother anyway. I don't see why dad ever made such a will."

"He had a right to dispose of his money as he saw fit," she said gravely. "We shall have to wait, dear."

"I'll carry you off by force," he threatened. "I tell you I won't wait." But in the end Susie had her own way. It seemed hard that their marriage was dependent upon the whim of James Frazier, but the late Horace Lambert had been twice beaten at law by Mrs. Spencer, and when the will was made it looked very much as if Lawrence Lambert would marry Grace Spencer.

That was before the boy met Susie Ronalds, Later Mr. Lampert had planned to alter his will, but Frazier had counseled against it, and in the end Mr. Lambert had passed away, leaving his son at the mercy of his shrewd but unscrupulous stepbrother.

Frazier had encouraged Larry's court ship of Susie, but when his formal consent had been asked it had been with held without any reason, and the more young Lambert stormed the better Frazier seemed to like it. He felt very certain that Larry could not wait for three years and that the family fortune would revert to himself.

That he was more than comfortably rich did not matter. He was of the type in whom possession begets desire for more, and he was deaf to all arguments advanced by Lambert.

He went placidly about his business and apparently had lost all interest in the matter; but, though his mind anpeared engrossed with oil wells, he was keenly aware of Lambert's impetuous er with avaricious eyes.

That the marriage did not take place was no fault of Lambert's, who begged and stormed alternately. "I won't walt three years," he declared impetuously after one of these meetings. "I want to marry you now, whether Uncle Jim

likes it or not.' "I think he will like it soon," she said, with a smile. "I don't want to say anything, but I've an idea that it will come out all right."

"There's Uncle Jim now" he said in surprise as the familiar team turned a curve in the road. "I wonder what he's

"Perhaps he has come to give his consent," she said, with an odd laugh. "Very likely," agreed Larry, with a "I declare, he is going to stop

Frazier lumbered through the yard and up to the front door. "Is your mother in?" he demanded as Susie answered the knock. "I just want to see

her a moment. She ushered him into the parlor and rejoined Larry in the sitting room. All that took place came clearly through the folding doors.

"I just dropped in to see you about that south meadow," began Frazler, when the greetings had been concluded. "I bought the Davis farm, and it struck me that the meadow would go better with the Davis property than with yours. It's like a separate farm to you, with the car tracks running between that and the rest of your land."

"I don't care to sell," said Mrs. Rolands quietly. "I had thought to sell it to get Susie's wedding things, but now she's not to be married there's no need

"I'd give a pretty good price for it." he said carelessly. "I'd have to drain off that swamp that Hes partly in your plot and partly in Davis' farm. Five hundred ought to be a pretty fair

"I don't want to sell," was the firm answer. "We've always called that 'Sue's trousseau,' and I shan't sell un-

til she needs one." "I wanted to see you about that, too," he went on uneasily. "I've been thinking it over, and it doesn't seem fair to the young folks to make 'em wait three years. I did think that Lawrence was too young, but he's changed amazingly lately, and I was going to say that if you still approve I'd say 'Yes' too. It may steady the boy to get married."

"Suppose you see them about it." she suggested, rising and going to the door. He followed her into the sitting room. where, with bluff heartiness, he formally gave his consent to the marriage. "Not only that," he declared expansively, "but I'll make the price of that mendow piece \$600 so as to get the

young folks started off right. I'll bring the papers over tomorrow." "Well, if Sue really is to be married,"

began Mrs. Reynolds hesitatingly. "If?" he shouted with boorish beartiness. "To be sure she is. I'll have the lawyer witness my consent while he's drawing up the deed to the meadow

He stamped out of the house in high good humor and Larry turned to the two women

"What is the meaning of all this?" he asked. "Is it magic?" "The magic of money," smiled Mrs.

Ronalds. "Your uncle has been tapping the Davis farm, and I guess be got over the line into our lot."

"If that meadow is oll land, it's worth a lot more than \$600," he said, indignantly. "Do you mean to say you are going to let him swindle you just for the sake of obtaining his consent? "We are willing to let the plot go,"

was the woman's quiet answer. Larry swore that he would not permit the sacrifice, but the two women only laughed, and he left with the determination to force his uncle to refuse the offer. Frazier smiled paternally.

"My dear boy," he said blandly, "that lot has one of the best wells I know of. We struck oil almost on the surface. When the land is mine and can sink the shaft it'll be worth a fortune. You have enough money for

yourself and the girl. That should be

sufficient." Larry rushed out of the house and back to the Ronalds home. The arguments the women advanced must have been sound, for when Frazier came with the title deeds the next day Larry suggested that he and the notary act as witnesses to their marriage. The gray haired old minister stepped forward and completed the ceremony, and Frazier was eager to congratulate the

"Here's the money for the trous seau," he cried, as he pressed a roll of bills into her hands. "Now if your mother will sign the deed, we'll be all through."

Mrs. Ronalds affixed her signature, and Frazier thrust the document deep into his pocket. He turned into the road leading past his new purchase. "I want to show you a pretty bit of land," he told his companion, the notary. "It's got one of the best oil wells in the state or I lose my guess, and I don't think I often make a mistake. Get up!

The last remark was addressed to the horse, for in the field he had just bought a gang of workmen were tearing up the soil.

"What are you doing there?" he demanded as he dashed up. "That is my property.'

"Just fixing the pipe line," explained the foreman. "I suppose the oil that got in the marsh the time of the wreck gave some one the idea that there was oil here. Anyhow, he's sunk his drill right into our main pipe line, confound

And Frazier drove on, echoing the last two words. "Sue's trousseau" had not been salted-just oiled,

A Teacher's Last Resort.

By the laws of Maryland corporal punishment in the public schools of that state is forbidden. This prohibition was much condemned by certain of the teachers with old fashioned ideas, especially by a teacher in one of the schools of the Eastern Shore some years ago. He was a strapping big fellow, and it was lucky for his pupils, who were rather a tough lot, that they were protected by the afore

mentioned law. The teacher did the best he could under the circumstances, but moral suasion proving of little avail he finally laid his case before the board of trus-

"Gentlemen." he said after a recital of his trials, "those boys must be lick

"You can't do that," replied the chair

"Then you must assist me in controlling them." "That, sir," observed the chairman testily, "is what you are employed to

"In that case," continued the teacher, 'you must allow me to lick them." "Corporal punishment is against the

law," insisted the chairman. "Then, gentlemen," concluded the teacher, with considerable emphasis, "some one must be licked, and I want to say right here that the next time I have trouble with my boys I'm going to lick a trustee. As I have trouble about once a day, each one of you may expect on the average one licking per week. I reckon there's no law against that."-Rochester Herald.

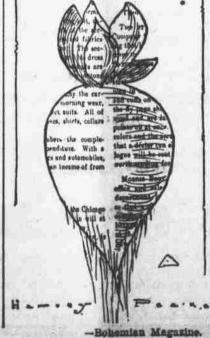
The Baggage System in England. "So you are going abroad, eh?" said a railroad man. "Well, watch your luggage over there. The system is

abominable. "They don't, you know, have our simple and satisfactory check system. In England, for instance, no one is responsible for your luggar but yourself. You get a porter to put it in the baggage car, and when you reach your destination you pick it out with another porter's help, put it on a cab and drive off. Any one could steal it. Often luggage thefts occur.

"I often wondered why the English railroads, which in many respects are so good, didn't adopt our American check system. Last year, asking an English railroad man, I found out.

"If the English roads adopted the check system they would be responsible for luggage, as our roads are. The English law does not make them re sponsible. Therefore, of course, they do nothing that will lay such a responsibility upon them. But they acknowledge that our luggage system is fine, while theirs is execrable. And they have a registering system-a mere begging of the question-for which you

have to pay extra." "A Newspaper Beat."



SHAW'S VIEW OF IT.

Former Secretary of the Treasury Talks on Public Ownership.

Government Employees Never as Efficient as the Employees of Firms and Corporations-Tenure of Office In the Civil Service Breeds Slipshod Ways.

There are over 20,000 public servants, exclusive of presidential appointees, under the direct supervision of the department at the head of which I had the honor to temporarily preside. They are a good, conscientious, painstaking body of men and women, and yet if the treasury department were a private enterprise every whit as much work could be accomplished with a reduction of one-third in number and one-fourth in the salary of those remaining. This condition is not to be charged to civil service rules and regulations, of which I most heartily approve, but to the inherent nature of public service.

Some years ago while walking through Lincoln park, Chicago, I noticed a group of twenty-five or more men pushing lawn mowers. Stopping to make some inquiry of a policeman, I innocently asked why the city did not use mowers drawn by horses. I shall long remember his reply: "I guess you don't live in Chicago, do you? How long do you think the city administration would live if it mowed the park with horses?"

The cornerstone of the city hall in Philadelphia was laid on July 4, 1874. but the building was not completed until the first year of the present ceutury. The capitol at Albany was begun in the sixties, it was far enough advanced to be the scene of an inaugural ball in the seventles and was completed, all save the tower, for which the foundation was found insufficient, in 1899. In the meantime the two great political parties alternated in control, and I am told in one or more instances four generations

performed work on the building. The appropriation for the public building in Chicago was signed by Grover Cleveland, and about sixty days ago I made final settlement and signed the draft for the last payment and was then able to answer public criticism because the work had progressed so slowly with record proof that it had been about as expeditiously built as most structures of its charac

ter erected by the government. The Harlem river, extending from the Hudson to the East river, eight miles in length, was dredged by the government to a depth of fifteen feet in seventeen years.

Now note a few instances of private enterprise. In 1904 the Pennsylvania railroad began the construction of twin tunnels through the mud beneath the Hudson river and four tunnels extending thence under the city of New York and beneath the East river to Long Island City, and now at the end of two years feels confident that its afteen miles of nineteen foot waterproof tunnel will be completed and in use within the contract period of four

John B. McDonald began work on the subways of New York in March. 1900, and had nine miles with double track and stations in operation in four

years and seven months. These instances Illustrate the natural, the necessary and the inevitable differences between private enterprise and government work and might be multi-

plied indefinitely. I do not know that I can explain the and always will exist better than to recite a very commonplace experience. I received a telegram some days ago from the cashier of a little bank in which I am interested. It read: "I am offered \$42.50 an acre for your East Boyer land. What shall I do?" I answered: "You know better than I do. Do as you think best." To this he replied, "I think the land is well sold." These telegrams were not even preserved. But if I had been acting for the government I would have had the land advertised for sale, I would have sent a ommission to examine and appraise it, I would have had not less than two subordinate officers of the department go through all the papers and submit their recommendations, I would then have rendered final decision, but I would have been careful to preserve a complete record of everything, lest on some unhappy day after my retirement and perhaps after my demise an investigating committee, appointed perchance by an adverse congress, would make inquiry and, failing to find posttive proof of honesty, would make a report filled with suggestions of doubt, and that would be quite enough to brand my name with shame. My sub-

ordinates fook the same precautions and safeguard their reputations with an equal amount of red tape whenever they sell an old horse or wornout piece of furniture. It is the appropriate function of the government to safeguard the individual and to see that the game of business is fairly played, that the cards are held above the table and that every-

ment to sit in the game. Control Easier Than Operation. The plea for municipal ownership seems logical in communities that appear to be unable to control public utility corporations. But if citles with all their law making and law enforctag power cannot cope with corporations which operate by their sufferance, would they be more able to man-

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age these companies themselves?-

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TAXATION IN OHIO

An Address by Hon. Atlee Pomerene Before the Canton Board of Trade.

At the annual banquet of the Canton Board of Trade held April 10, 1907, Hon. Atlee Pomerene, a member of the Tax Commission of Ohio, delivered a comprehensive address on the subject of "Taxation in Ohio."

Mr. Pomerene discussed the limitations of the constitution as they affect taxation.

"When the constitution of 1851 was adopted, it provided like that of 1802 that no poll tax for county or state purposes should be levied. There can, therefore, be no taxes now upon persons, and I do not believe there should be. But Section 2, Article 12, of the constitution of 1851 provided 'laws shall be passed, taxing by uniform rule, all moneys, credits, investments in bonds, stocks, joint stock companies, or otherwise; and also real and personal property according to its value in money.' This was amended Nov. 7, 1905, so as to except from taxation, bends-state, municipal, county, township and school. The legislature, therefore, is limited more than it was by the constitution of 1802.

"It is well in theory to say that all classes of property of whatsoever kind, shall be taxed according to its true value in money, but the experionce of fifty-six years since the adop tion of the constitution of 1851, warns us that in practice this rule is in

equitable and unjust. "When Article 12, Section 2, was adopted, a regulation was prescribed not only for our fathers, but for suc ceeding generations. I do not think they wrought well for themselves, and they certainly have not for us. In this day of corporations, private and quasi public, when great franchises are being given away for the asking, it is well for us to pause and take a thought for the morrow, as well as for the present. We are better able to determine, and the general assembly is better able to determine, what is necessary and suitable to our present condition than were our fathers of two generations ago.

"We must remember that in the administration of our tax laws real estate does not and cannot escape the attention of the officer. Some tangible personal property does and can escape and most of it does escape.

Mr. Pomerene showed how monies and credits escaped taxation. After summing up the inconsistencies of the consitutional restrictions, he said:

"What should be done? I speak for no one save myself. First, in my judgment the constitution should be so amended as to until the hands of the legislature entirely, or to so amend Section 2 of Article 12 that it will permit of a classification of the subjects of taxation. It is urged that if this section of the constitution be wiped out entirely, and the legisla- Dayton Daily fournal. ture left free to do what to it seems meet, there would be no end of lobby

ing and corruption. "But it is not necessary to go to that extent, if the people will but permit a classification of property so that real estate may be put upon one footing; tangible personal property upon another, and intangible upon still another, then laws may be passed which would be pertinent and applicable to each subject. Would it not be reasons why these differences must fairer then to adopt some statute taxing personal property, and particularly intangible personal property, at a lesser rate? Would it not be more likely to be returned for taxation? And certainly we don't want to be put in an attitude where we are forcing money and the holders of securities to move without the state. When the rule is once adopted, it will apply with equal and exact justice to all, because each will have the same opportunities to acquire personal property, tangible or intangible, that he now has to acquire real estate. It is not true that a rule of this kind would work an injustice upon the owners of real estate. It is said that the farming communities pay proportionately more taxes than the residents of cities. This, I believe, is true, but it is no more true of real estate than

It is of personality. "Second. Franchises should be taxed I do not mean by this that excessive burdens shall be placed upon corporations of any kind. I believe they have escaped their fair portion of this burden in the past, but that ought not to be a reason why they should be punished now or in the future, because the holders of these franchises of yesterday are not the holders thereof today or tomorrow.

"Third. All state taxes should be abolished. All burdens of this character should be as nearly local as possible.

tion, permanent in its nature, com body is given a square deal. It is not the appropriate function of the govern-

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Fourth. Some system should be devised, such as a state board of taxaposed of men who know their business. There should also be county boards made responsible to the state boards, and there should be appointed township or ward assessors who are fitted by experience to do that which

the law requires of them. "Fifth. Let the state and county and township, and municipal and school officials give one-half as much attention to the curtailment of public expenses as they do to finding new sources of revenues for expenditure. and we will then be as near a Utopian form of government as we can hope to be before we reach the millennium."

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